

polyesters, polyethylene, polypropylene, polyvinylchloride, polyfluorocarbons, polyurethanes, polysulfones, and their mixtures, alloys, blends, copolymers, and block copolymers.

102. (New) The neuro-vascular catheter section of claim 96, wherein the super-elastic alloy comprises a nickel-titanium alloy.

103. (New) The neuro-vascular catheter section of claim 96, wherein the super-elastic alloy comprises a nickel-titanium alloy further containing an alloying member selected from the group consisting of vanadium, chromium, manganese, iron, and cobalt.--

REMARKS

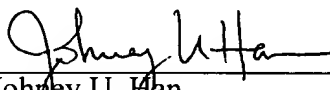
The specification has been amended to provide reference to a related co-pending U.S. Patent Application. This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Number 08/641,259 filed April 30, 1996 and introduces new claims 96-103. New claim 96 is similar to claim 1 in the parent case; however, these new claims patentably distinguish the bend diameter of the catheter section over the prior art. A catheter for use in a circulatory system located in an area such as, e.g., the brain, requires distinguishing mechanical features over a catheter which would be used in another region of the body, e.g., the heart. For instance, because the brain is composed of soft tissue and has a tortuously winding vascular system, a catheter must have sufficient structural stiffness to be pushed through the winding path and yet allow for sufficient bending around extremely small bend diameters without kinking. On the other hand, the catheter used in the heart need not have a bending diameter anywhere near the bending capability as the catheter for use in the brain yet still allow for effective use. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification and figures, particularly at page 33, ¶2; page 34, ¶1; and Figs. 18A and 18B.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for

any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Assistant Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to **Deposit Account No. 03-1952** referencing docket no. 290252012901. However, the Assistant Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 25, 2000

By: 
John U. Han
Registration No. 45,565

Morrison & Foerster LLP
755 Page Mill Road
Palo Alto, California 94304-1018
Telephone: (650) 813-5786
Facsimile: (650) 494-0792